

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 502

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, OREP, CH

SUBJECT: 1977 US-PRC EXCHANGES AND USG REPRESENTATION

REF: STATE 53231

1. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL, WE LIST IN PRIORITY ORDER THE FACILITATED DELEGATIONS TO WHICH USLO WOULD LIKE TO ASSIGN AN OFFICER.

A. THE TWO "OFFICIAL" CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS AND ANY OTHER CODELS. (WHILE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS DIRECTLY INVITED BY THE CHINESE MAY NOT BE "EXCHANGES AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS" MOST ARE CLEARLY JOINTLY FACILITATED.)

B. YOUNG AMERICAN POLITICAL LEADERS NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND CSC DELEGATIONS SPORTS TEAM STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORS VEGETABLE STUDY

C. ASTRONOMY
CANCER RESEARCH
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ANCIENT CHINESE PAINTING
APPLIED LINQUISTICS

2. WE READ REFTEL AS MEANING DEPARTMENT DOES NOT REQUIRE NOMINATIONS AT THIS POINT. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONFIDENT A HIGHLY QUALIFIED USLO OFFICER WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ACCOMPANYING EACH OF THE ABOVE GROUPS.

THIS IS OWING TO INCREASE IN USLO STAFF WHICH WAS PARTLY JUSTIFIED AS PERMITTING MORE TRAVEL. LAST FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTION REPORT, MOVEOVER, NOTED THE PARTICULAR VALUE TO USG OF USLO TRAVEL WITH FACILITATED DELEGATIONS.

3. IN ADDITION TO INVITING US TO BID ON FACILITATED DELEGATION ESCORT JOBS, REFTEL ASKED THAT WITH EACH BID WE STATE--FOR USE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CONVERSATIONS WITH THE TWO COMMITTEES--THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE CASE FORA USG AND IN PARTICULAR A USLO ESCORT. FULL RESPNSE WOULD ENTAIL A LOT OF REPETITION. WE THEREFORE FOCUS ON THOS COMMITTEE-RUN EXCHANGES IN WHICH (PER PARA ONE OF REFTEL) HAVING ANY USG ESCORT IS AT ISSUE, OR IN WHICH THERE WILL BEONLY ONE USG ESCORT.

4. WITH REGARD TO THIRD NATIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION AND CSC'S OWN DELEGATION THE ARGUMENT FOR USG REPRESENTATION IS OBVIOUS. THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT NEED OUR WORDS ON THE BASIC CONSIDERATIONS; A RELEVANT CONSIDERATION IS THAT USLO (IN KEEPING WITH THE FEBRUARY 1973 AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH LIAISON OFFICES) NOW CONDUCTS THE ANNUAL TALKS LEADING TO THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON WHICH THE NC AND CSC ESCHANGES RIDE.

5. AS FOR CSC-SPONSORED DELEGATIONS, REFTEL NOTES THERE IS ALREADY GENERAL AGREEMENT ON ESCORTS FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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"AT LEAST HALF." WE ASSUME ALL THESE DELEGATIONS WILL RECEIVE A FAIR PRESENTATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL CASE FOR HAVING A USG ESCORT. BEYOND THIS, THE SALES PITCH WE WOULD MAKE TO DELEGATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE VALUE OF THE USG SERVICES OFFERED THEM IS THAT USLO CONSTITUTES BY FAR THE MOST EXPERIENCED AND EFFECTIVE CHINA ESCORT SERVICE IN THE USG. TO DELEGATIONS INTERESTED IN HELPING THE USG WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT THEIR HELP--ESSENTIALLY FACILITATING TRAVEL AND ACCESS TO PRC OFFICIALS--IS MOST NEEDED AND MOST EFFICIENTLY UTILIZED BY THE OFFICE REPRESENTING THE USG IN CHINA.

6. TURNING FROM THE COMMITTEES BACK TO CODELS, WE WANT TO STRESS OUR CONCERN, ON BOTH REPORTING AND CONDUCT OF RELATIONS GROUNDS, THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH BE REPRESENTED AT SUBSTANTIVE TALKS BETWEEN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS AND CHINESE LEADERS, AND, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, IN CODEL TRAVELS WITHIN CHINA.

THE "OFFICIAL" CODELS HAVE BEEN NO PROBLEM, BUT THE
RECORD WITH DIRECTLY INVITED ONES HAS BEEN SPOTTY
AND USLO HAS NEVER SUCCEEDED IN ATTACHING AN ESCORT.
WE HOPE VERY MUCH THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND WHITE HOUSE
CAN ARRIVE AT AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL
LEADERSHIP SO THAT DIRECTLY INVITED CODELS--
ESPECIALLY THE ONES DESIGNATED PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS--
ARRANGE TO INCLUDE DEPARTMENT OR USLO OFFICER, OR
BOTH, AMONG SUBSTANTIVE STAFF. IF CODEL'S WISH TO DO
THIS IS FIRMLY MADE KNOWN TO PRCLO IN INITIAL DISCUS-
SION AFTER INVITATION IS ISSUED, WE THINK CHANCES ARE
GOOD THE CHINESE WILL AGREE.
DEAN

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